COVERAGE NAME : VEGA

COVERAGE AREA: COUNTY

COVERAGE DESCRIPTION:

The 'VEGETATION' layer is a polygon coverage which shows 73 dominant vegetation types for California. The coverage was developed from scanned 1:250,000 scale paper source maps. The minimum mapping unit is 400 acres. This is not a coverage to be used in conjunction with large-scale data.

This layer is a two-level hierarchical classification system of actual vegetation designed to assess broad scale resources throughout California (Parker and Matyas 1979). Approximately 125 vegetation series were identified but only 73 series were actually mapped. Each series is defined by the dominant overstory species of the community (e.g., Ponderosa Pine series). Structural information (e.g., tree size or canopy closure) was not mapped.

The source mapping was done between 1979 and 1981 by U.S. Forest Service ecologists. The mapping process involved photo-interpretation of 1:250,000 scale color infra-red prints of Landsat Multispectral Scanner (MSS) imagery acquired between 1977 and 1979. The average polygon size is 38,000 acres for the entire state (excluding polygons along map edges). Consequently, many important vegetation communities that occur in smaller units are not distinguished. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection created the digital 'VEG' coverage by scanning the source maps.

VITAL STATISTICS:

Datum:	NAD 83
Projection:	Albers
Units:	Meters
1st Std. Parallel:	34 00 00 (34.0 degrees N)
2nd Std. Parallel:	40 30 00 (40.5 degrees N)
Longitude of Origin:	-120 00 00 (120.0 degrees W)
Latitude of Origin:	00 00 00 (0.0 degrees)
False Easting (X shift):	0
False Northing (Y shift):	-4,000,000
Source:	U. S. Forest Service
Source Media:	Paper maps
Source Projection:	N/A
Source Units:	N/A
Source Scale:	1:250,000
Capture Method:	Scanned
Conversion Software:	ARC/INFO rev. 5.0.1
Data Structure:	Vector
ARC/INFO Coverage Type:	Polygon
ARC/INFO Precision:	Single
ARC/INFO Tolerances:	N/A
Number of Features:	4,892
Layer Size:	7.952 MB
Data Updated:	Not updated since capture

DATA DICTIONARY: VEGA.PAT
LENGTH: 94

COLUMN	ITEM NAME	WIDTH	OUTPUT	TYPE	N. DEC
25	SPECIES	2	2	C	-
27	WHR	3	3	C	-
30	CVNAME	30	30	C	-
60	WHRNAME	30	30	C	-
90	OLD_SPECIES	2	2	C	-
92	OLD_WHR	3	3	C	-

SPECIES : 2-letter species code

WHR : 3-letter Wildlife-Habitat Relationship type code

Species to WHR Crosswalk Table

Species Code and Description	WHR Code and Description
AC Cushion Plan	ADS Alpine Dwarf-Shrub
AP Atriplex	ASC Alkali Desert Scrub
BA Barren	BAR Barren
BB Bitterbrush	BBR Bitterbrush
BL Low Sagebrush	LSG Low Sage
BP Bristlecone Pine	SCN Subalpine Conifer
BS Sagebrush	SGB Sagebrush
BT Big Tree	SMC Sierran Mixed Conifer
CA Chamise	CRC Chamise-Redshank Chaparral
CC Ceanothus	MCH Mixed Chaparral
CE Mariposa Manzanita	MCH Mixed Chaparral
CG Greenleaf Manzanita	MCP Montane Chaparral
CH Huckleberry Oak	MCP Montane Chaparral
CI Deerbrush	MCP Montane Chaparral
*CM Montane Mixed Shrub	CRC Chamise-Redshank Chaparral
*CM Montane Mixed Shrub	MCP Montane Chaparral
CO Sumac	CSC Coastal Scrub
CS Scrub Oak	MCH Mixed Chaparral
CV Tobacco Brush	MCP Montane Chaparral
CW Whiteleaf Manzanita	MCH Mixed Chaparral
CX Manzanita	MCP Montane Chaparral
DA Blackbush	DSC Desert Scrub
DB Desert Buckwheat	DSC Desert Scrub
DC Cholla	DSS Desert Succulent Shrub
DF Douglas Fir-Tanoak-Madrone	DFR Douglas-Fir
DL Creosote	DSC Desert Scrub
DP Douglas Fir - Pine - Madrone	DFR Douglas-Fir
DS Shadscale	ASC Alkali Desert Scrub
EA Englemann Spruce-Alpine Fir	KMC Klamath Mixed Conifer
HC Pickleweed - Cordgrass	SEW Saline Emergent Wetland
HG Annual Grass - Forb	AGS Annual Grass
HM Perennial Grass	PGS Perennial Grass

HS Beachgrass - Ryegrass	PGS Perennial Grass
HW Mule Ears	SGB Sagebrush
JP Jeffrey Pine	JPN Jeffrey Pine
LP Lodgepole Pine	LPN Lodgepole Pine
*MF Mixed Conifer - Fir	KMC Klamath Mixed Conifer
*MF Mixed Conifer - Fir	SMC Sierran Mixed Conifer
MH Mountain Hemlock	SCN Subalpine Conifer
*MP Mixed Conifer - Pine	EPN Eastside Pine
*MP Mixed Conifer - Pine	KMC Klamath Mixed Conifer
*MP Mixed Conifer - Pine	MHC Montane Hardwood-Conifer
*MP Mixed Conifer - Pine	SMC Sierran Mixed Conifer
PB Brewer Spruce	KMC Klamath Mixed Conifer
PC Coulter Pine	MHC Montane Hardwood-Conifer
PJ Singleleaf Pinyon	PJN Pinyon-Juniper
PM Bishop Pine	CPC Closed-cone Pine-Cypress
PP Ponderosa Pine	PPN Ponderosa Pine
PR Monterey Pine	CPC Closed-cone Pine-Cypress
PT Torrey Pine	CPC Closed-cone Pine-Cypress
QA Coast Live Oak	COW Coastal Oak Woodland
QC Canyon Live Oak	MHW Montane Hardwood
QD Blue Oak	BOW Blue Oak Woodland
QG Oregon White Oak	MHW Montane Hardwood
QH Madrone - Black Oak	COW Coastal Oak Woodland
QK Black Oak	MHW Montane Hardwood
QL Valley Oak	VOW Valley Oak Woodland
QP California Sycamore	VRI Valley Foothill Riparian
*QR Red Alder	MHC Montane Hardwood-Conifer
*QR Red Alder	MRI Montane Riparian
QT Tanoak - Madrone	MHW Montane Hardwood
QW Interior Live Oak	MHW Montane Hardwood
QY Willow - Alder	MRI Montane Riparian
RD Redwood - Douglas Fir	DFR Douglas-Fir
RF Red Fir	RFR Red Fir
RW Redwood	RDW Redwood
SB Coastal Buckwheat	CSC Coastal Scrub
SG Sitka Spruce - Grand Fir	RDW Redwood
SS California Sagebrush	CSC Coastal Scrub
UA Urban - Agriculture	UAG Urban-Agriculture
UI Desert Ironwood	DSW Desert Wash
UJ Joshua Tree	JST Joshua Tree
UP Paloverde	DSW Desert Wash
UT Tamarisk	DRI Desert Riparian
WA Water	WAT Water
WF White Fir	WFR White Fir
WJ Western Juniper	JUN Juniper
WP Washoe Pine	JPN Jeffrey Pine

* CM, MF, MP, and QR require rules to define crosswalk.

- CM -- Crosswalks primarily to MCP except for 1 polygon in the southern part of the state that goes to CRC due to a redshank component.
- MF -- Crosswalks to KMC, SMC, or WFR based on location.
- MP -- Crosswalks to KMC, SMC, EPN, or MHC based on location.
- QR -- Crosswalks primarily to MRI except for 3 polygons on the Humboldt coast that crosswalks to MHC.

CVNAME : Name used in CALVEG (may differ from other names)
WHRNAME : Wildlife-habitat relationship name (decoded WHR)
OLD_SPECIES : Species name used in previous coverage
OLD_WHR : WHR name used in previous coverage

DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT:

The following are subjective comments regarding this data.

The source maps were field checked at the time of its compilation, but estimates of its accuracy were not published. Preliminary non-spatial and spatial error analyses have been conducted by the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis. In general, high classification error rates (overall agreement 30%) were documented for the data. Overall map accuracy increased to 65% following simplification of the vegetation classification into four formation types: conifer, hardwood, shrub, herbaceous.